Drought assistance to Maharashtra

1804. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1040 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 2004 and state:

(a) whether the amount sanctioned to Maharashtra is inadequate to meet various relief measures for mitigation of drought situation in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to sanction more financial assistance to overcome the drought situation there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Total assistance to Maharashtra for 2003-04 drought amounts to Rs. 1158.83 crores. It consists of Rs. 208.14 crores from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), Rs.250.69 crores from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and 7 lakh MTs of foodgrains, costing Rs.700 crores, under special component of Sampooma Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), for relief employment.

DAP fertilizer industries

1805. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various remedial measures taken and proposed to be taken to protect all the domestic DAP fertilizer industries in India and the Indian farming community;

(b) the total number of DAP fertilizer industries closed, so far; and

(c) the total number of DAP fertilizer industries declared as sick?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) is a decontrolled fertilizer. However, to ensure availability of DAP to farmers at affordable price, Government is providing subsidy/concessions on indigenous & imported DAP and announcing the indicative MRP of DAP under the Concession Scheme of decontrolled fertilizers. The subsidy/ concession is worked out on indigenous DAP as per the methodology based on the recommendations of Tariff Commission. The separate

concession is worked out for the DAP manufactured through indigenous phosphoric acid & imported phosphoric acid.

(b) No DAP fertilizer industry in the country is closed. The production of DAP reported by the companies during the period April to July, 2004 is 17.28 lakh MT as against the production of 11.58 lakh MT in the same period of 2003.

(c) No DAP fertilizer industry has been declared sick.

Compensation to victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy

1806. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALSAND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered to pay Rs.1503 crore to the victims of 1984 Bhopal Gas tragedy immediately;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of claimants for the compensation,

(d) whether the amount of the compensation has since been paid to the claimants;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons for delay in distributing the compensation amount?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALSAND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (f) In its judgement dated 14th/15th February, 1989, the Supreme Court directed the Union Carbide to deposit US $ 470 millions as a settlement of all past, present and future claims. As a result of Supreme Court Order, Union Carbide Company deposited US $ 470 millions (420 million in US dollar and approximately Rs.69 crore in Indian rupees) in March, 1989. The process of giving compensation started in 1992. 10,29,515 cases were registered for compensation. All the cases have since been settled. Compensation has been awarded in 5,72,173 cases by the Welfare Commissioner who is a sitting judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court. An amount of Rs. 1536.27 crores has been disbursed as compensation till 31.7.2004. After deciding ail the cases, except appeals and revision petitions, some amount remained unutilized. For this amount, the Supreme Court now, in its judgement